

## **ADVISORY FOR VISA APPLICANTS**

In continuation of this Ministry's O.M. of even number dated 21.10.2020 on the above mentioned subject and keeping in view the improvement in COVID-19 situation in India, the Government has considered the need for further relaxation of visa and travel restrictions.

2. Accordingly, with immediate effect it has been decided that:
  - i. Currently valid e-Tourist Visa issued for five years, which was suspended since March 2020, shall stand restored to nationals of 156 eligible countries with immediate effect. Nationals of these 156 countries (list available at <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/>) will also be eligible for issuance of fresh e-Tourist visa.
  - ii. Currently valid Regular (Paper) Tourist visa with validity of 5 Years, issued to foreign nationals of all countries, which remained suspended since March 2020, shall stand restored. Fresh Regular (Paper) Tourist visa up to 5 years validity may also be issued to the nationals of the eligible countries subject to the restrictions imposed from time to time.
  - iii. Currently valid old Long duration (10) Regular Tourist Visa which remained suspended since March, 2020 shall stand restored for the nationals of USA and Japan. Fresh Long duration (10) Tourist Visa can also be issued to the nationals of USA and Japan.
  - iv. Long Duration Regular Tourist Visa issued to Canadian nationals before March 2020 will continue to remain suspended and they would not be eligible for fresh Long Duration visa. Canadian nationals will be eligible for fresh Regular Tourist Visa except 10 year long duration Tourist Visa.
  - v. The Foreign nationals of Tourist/ e-Tourist Visas may enter into India only through designated Sea Immigration Check Posts (ICPs) or Airports ICPs by flights, including those under the Vande Bharat Mission or 'air bubble' scheme or by any flights as allowed by the DGCA or Ministry of Civil Aviation. In no case the foreign nationals will be allowed to enter through Land border or riverine

routes on Tourist Visa/e-Tourist Visa. Order for opening of Land ICPs and riverine routes will be communicated separately.

- vi. These instructions will not be applicable to Afghanistan nationals who will continue to be governed by the separate instructions issued by this Ministry regarding grant of e-Emergency X-Misc. Visa.
- vii. All other health/ COVID-19 related matters, extant guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare shall be adhered to.